



New York Field Office

<http://nyfo.fws.gov>

Partners for Fish & Wildlife



Congressional District #24

Sherwood Boehlert

"We are really happy with the (Partners for Fish and Wildlife) Program and enjoy our wetland. The neighbors also enjoy the wildlife it attracts" said Jackie Keenen about the wetlands restored on her property 10 years ago. Ms. Keenen is one of the 2,500 in New York who have joined with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to restore wildlife habitat on their lands. Through its innovative Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, the Service provides technical advice and funding to help landowners like Ms. Keenen realize their goal of making their land a better place for wildlife and in the process a better place for themselves.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Accomplishments In Congressional District 24

Number of Landowners with Completed Projects	118
Acres of Wetland Habitat Restored	1615
Acres of Grassland Habitat Restored	337
Miles of Riparian Habitat Restored	6.6
Number of Sites Restored	193
Number of Landowners Participating in PFW	344
Number of Landowners on the Waiting list	59

Accomplishments

New York State's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program was initiated in 1990 to restore wetland habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds. Since then the Partners Program has been very active in Congressional District 22 restoring all types of wildlife habitat for the benefit of a variety of wildlife species, and of course the landowners as well.



Before and after
Restoration



In the 2005 field season, Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program teamed up with the Upper Susquehanna Coalition to restore a 50 acre drained wetland. The project was being used as a reed canary grass hay field. Each spring the Tioughnioga River would flood its banks and spill onto the 50 acre field. Past landowners installed an elaborate ditching system to make the water drain off quicker so that the field could be hayed. Since then the land had been sold and the current landowner is no longer interested in harvesting the hay. Partners constructed low berms and excavated potholes to restore hydrology to the drained wetland. The project provides migration, breeding, and brood habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds.

Goals

- To restore 5,000 acres of wetland habitat for waterfowl, water birds, and song birds.
- To restore 2,000 acres of grassland habitat for grassland nesting birds like the bobolink.
- To restore 10 miles of streams using natural channel design including Spafford Creek, Owego Creek, and Susquehanna River for the benefit of wildlife and water quality.

Partners

Natural Resources Conservation Service
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry
Niagara Mohawk Electric Company
Watershed Agriculture Council
Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Forever
Student Conservation Association

Farm Service Agency
Greenwood Conservancy
National Grid
Tioga County SWCD
Ducks Unlimited
Trout Unlimited
Great Swamp Conservancy

NYSDEC
Ruffed Grouse Society
Finger Lakes Land Trust
The Nature Conservancy
National Audubon Society
Boy Scouts of America Pheasants
Upper Susquehanna Coalition